

Who to call:

If you see:

- Rats on public property, in parks, in streets, or in drains;
- Rubbish disposal in violation of City ordinance; or,
- Rats you think might be related to roadway renovations, please contact:

Department of Public Works
147 Hampshire Street
(617) 349-4800/ TDD (617) 349-4805


If you see:

- Evidence of rodents in commercial or residential establishments; or,
- Rats you think might be related to demolition or excavation on a construction site, please contact:

Inspectional Services Department
831 Massachusetts Avenue
(617) 349-6100/ TTY (617) 349-6112

When you call (**numbers above**) or email (**Rodents@cambridgema.gov**) please give detailed info about what you saw: the address, exact location (front yard, alley, drain, etc.), and time of day. This will help us to conduct the most effective investigation possible.

Together, we can control rodents in Cambridge!

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Rodent Control



*A Guide for Cambridge
Property Owners and Residents*

City of Cambridge
Cambridge, MA 02139
www.cambridgema.gov



Rodents are an unavoidable part of life in any city. The City of Cambridge is committed to confronting this problem by:

1. Addressing rodent problems on public property
2. Working to control rodents during construction projects
3. Enforcing sanitary codes and ordinances
4. Educating the public

By working together, we can make Cambridge as free from rodents as possible.

Rats & Construction

Rodents are generally not disturbed by routine road and sidewalk work, but by construction involving extensive demolition or excavation. The Inspectional Services Department requires that a rodent control protocol be established prior to approval of demolition permits and building permits involving excavation. All Public Works contracts dealing with excavation or underground utilities include rodent control in their specifications.

Rats usually stay close to home; they typically go just far enough to find food and shelter. By working to eliminate rodents in an area before construction begins, Cambridge works to prevent the spread of rodents to other neighborhoods.



On back: Who to call...

The rodent control program is only effective if everyone takes responsibility for keeping their homes and businesses as rodent-proof as possible. Please help us by doing the following.

10 Tips on Rodent Control:

1. Store garbage in metal or heavy plastic containers with tight lids.
2. Place trash outside shortly before pickup; don't leave plastic garbage bags outside overnight.
3. Remove weeds and debris near buildings and in yards; don't give rats a place to hide.
4. Store opened food in metal or glass containers with tight lids.
5. Don't leave extra pet food out; store it in a secure container.
6. Sweep up food remains, litter, and trash, inside and outside your home.
7. Inspect your basement and house for cracks and holes; seal them with mortar.
8. Make sure you have screens on windows; inspect windows and screens for holes.
9. Keep outside doors closed; use metal trim to prevent rodents from gnawing and entering underneath.
10. Don't provide hiding places for rodents; store materials such as lumber and boxes on a rack with a clean, open area underneath. Get rid of unused material.



*Any time you see a rat please call or email us. This will help us track all sightings throughout the city, and keep us aware of above-average levels of rats in specific locations. Email us at **Rodents@cambridgema.gov**.*